

From: Greg Mader
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/9/02 12:04pm
Subject: I disagree with the proposed microsoft anti-trust settlement

Dear DOJ,

I respectfully disagree with the proposed settlement with Microsoft, as it allows them to continue to "embrace and extend" open protocols with their own proprietary extensions, and, eventually, stomp out competition. Notice the pattern of RTF for word processing, PPTP for Virtual Private Networks, and Kerberos for authentication. In all of these cases, Microsoft, while claiming to embrace an open standard, remove access and interoperability features, and refuse to release their changes. I recommend that they be allowed to continue as a company, but make mandatory disclosures, or "Open Source" their technology, supervised by a review board. Please do not punish users of other operating systems by allowing Microsoft to push them into oblivion. Instead, encourage Microsoft to release specifications or source code necessary to interoperate with their software.

Thank You,

Greg Mader
Chicago, IL